

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

DATE: November 15, 2006

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:44 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 6:55 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chair
Greg Bowes
Vernon Brown
Lynn McWhirter
William Oliver
Lincoln Plowman

Absent Members

Sherron Franklin
Scott Schneider

AGENDA

PROPOSAL NO. 600, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$25,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Coroner (County General Fund) to provide funding for the salaries of support staff through the end of 2006

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 601, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$6,884 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Sheriff (State and Federal Grants Fund) to pay for travel expenses for deputies to attend an FBI Hazardous Devices School, funded by Block Grant #9

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 602, 2006 - approves an increase of \$194,202 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to appropriate the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Juvenile Accountability Block Grant to fund the Reach for Youth Diversion Program, IPD Indy Nite Lite, Restitution and Community Work Service Program, Mentoring Academy, JABG Program administrative costs, and enhancements to the Juvenile Court's case management system

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 603, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$300,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (County General Fund) to pay for jury costs, security and custodial costs which occurred at levels greater than the amount budgeted

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 604, 2006 - appropriates a total of \$11,250 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Planning Division (Non-Lapsing Federal Grants Fund) to fund the purchase of laptops to enhance the capabilities of state and local public safety personnel in preventing and responding to acts of terrorism

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 605, 2006 - appropriates a total of \$110,337 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Police Division (Non-Lapsing Federal Grants Fund) to fund the Our Kids (OK) Program and to purchase bullet proof vests for police officers

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 606, 2006 - approves an increase of \$267,312 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Prosecutor (State and Federal Grants Fund) to pay salaries, supplies, training, and child interviewing equipment upgrades at the Child Advocacy Center and to provide for continued funding of a deputy prosecutor for the Joint Regional Gang Interdiction Program

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 607, 2006 - amends the Code for the purpose of enabling the Indianapolis Fire Department to charge fees for emergency ambulance services

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PROPOSAL NO. 608, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$320,762 from the Police General Fund to the IMPD Fund for the funding of the 59 recruits of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department starting November 13, 2006

“Do Pass”

Vote: 5-0

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council met on Wednesday, November 15, 2006. Chair Mary Moriarty Adams called the meeting to order at 5:44 p.m. with the following members present: Greg Bowes, Vernon Brown, Lynn McWhirter, William Oliver, and Lincoln Plowman. Absent were Sherron Franklin and Scott Schneider.

PROPOSAL NO. 600, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$25,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Coroner (County General Fund) to provide funding for the salaries of support staff through the end of 2006

Alfarena Ballew, Chief Deputy Coroner, said this proposal is to transfer funds from Character 03 to Character 01 for the salaries of the support staff of the current pathology group. She said the \$25,000 covers six full-time employees and three part-time employees' salaries throughout the end of 2006. The contract for the current pathologist's services was terminated and will end December 19, 2006.

Chair Moriarty Adams asked if the support staff will be leaving at the end of the year. Ms. Ballew said they are ending a contract and absorbing the support staff for the current pathology group.

Councillor McWhirter asked why the staff is being absorbed now if the contract ends December 19, 2006. Ms. Ballew said the support staff will start on December 4, 2006 as a part of the transition.

Councillor Bowes asked how the absorption of staff will affect the Coroner's authorized staffing table. Jeff Seidenstein, Budget Manager, said that the nine support staff may not be included in 2006 full-time equivalents (FTEs), and he will have to look at the 2007 FTEs. Robert Clifford, Controller, said he believes the nine support staff were included in the 2007 FTEs during the budget process. Councillor Bowes asked if there is an authorization problem with FTEs for the remainder of 2006. Mr. Clifford said the city was the only one with staffing tables. He said an appropriation in Character 01 for the Coroner should be sufficient. Councillor Bowes asked how many doctors will be doing autopsies. Ms. Ballew said they have three prospective candidates that they are in negotiations with to perform autopsies. She said none of the three prospective candidates will be county employees, but instead prefer to be contractual employees. She added that there is enough money in Character 03 to provide professional services.

Chair Moriarty Adams asked how soon the prospective candidates need to be on board. Ms. Ballew said they are in the process of finalizing all contracts. She said the three doctors will be on board by December 19, 2006.

Councillor McWhirter asked how much the contract with support staff was for 2006. Ms. Ballew said it was \$858,000. Councillor McWhirter asked for the total for the absorbed

support staff and the three new contracts. Ms. Ballew said the cost will be over \$700,000. She said the contracts are slightly less than what they are currently paying.

Councillor Brown asked for clarification on whether the current pathologists will still be available to testify in court, if necessary. Mr. Clifford said the current pathologists have existing requirements for follow-through. He said he believes the prosecutors, public defenders, and judges have the ability to require them to testify, if needed.

Councillor Bowes asked if the \$700,000 amount will be in Character 03. Ms. Ballew said this amount will be coming out of Character 01. Councillor Bowes asked if the contract is going to be on a cost per case or yearly amount. Ms. Ballew said it is still being negotiated. Mr. Seidenstein said the Coroner's Office will be before the committee some time next year to transfer funds between characters.

Chair Moriarty Adams asked to be notified when an agreement is made with the three contracts. Ms. Ballew agreed.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Oliver, to send Proposal No. 600, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 601, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$6,884 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Sheriff (State and Federal Grants Fund) to pay for travel expenses for deputies to attend an FBI Hazardous Devices School, funded by Block Grant #9

Marianne Greve, Marion County Sheriff's Department (MCSD), said the MCSD has money from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Block Grant #9, that had been used for other items and training. She said this grant will be ending soon, and two deputies need to be reimbursed for their training. Ms. Greve said this amount will come from Character 01 due to some salary dollars being available.

Councillor McWhirter moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to send Proposal No. 601, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Chair Moriarty Adams asked for consent to hear Proposal Nos. 602 and 603, 2006 together. Consent was given.

PROPOSAL NO. 602, 2006 - approves an increase of \$194,202 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (State and Federal Grants Fund) to appropriate the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute Juvenile Accountability Block Grant to fund the Reach for Youth Diversion Program, IPD Indy Nite Lite, Restitution and Community Work Service Program, Mentoring Academy, JABG Program administrative costs, and enhancements to the Juvenile Court's case management system

Sue Patterson, Director of Finances for the Court Services Agency, read and explained Proposal No. 602, 2006 per Exhibit A (attached). She said the Teen Court program allows youth to understand how the justice system works, and the Restorative Justice program brings the juvenile offender together with his/her victim to discuss their wrongdoing. She went on to describe the other programs and the quest enhancements in the case management system found in Exhibit A.

Councillor Brown said he is pleased to have the opportunity to do enhancements with quest to obtain factual information from the system in order to make decisions.

Councillor Oliver asked for clarification on the restitution program. Ms. Patterson said juveniles will go out and do work in neighborhoods or with not-for-profit organizations. For every hour that they are working, five dollars is put into an account. The Clerk will then issue a restitution check to the victim from this account. Councillor Oliver asked if groups and agencies can access these juveniles for job opportunities. Ms. Patterson replied in the affirmative and said Georgette Sims is the Community Work Service Coordinator for both adult and juvenile probation and can be contacted to set up this program.

Chair Moriarty Adams said the workers do a great job, and it is a valuable program for the victims and the community.

PROPOSAL NO. 603, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$300,000 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion Superior Court (County General Fund) to pay for jury costs, security and custodial costs which occurred at levels greater than the amount budgeted

Ms. Patterson read and explained Proposal No. 603, 2006 per Exhibit A.

Carlette Duffy, Indianapolis Region Director for Area Youth Ministry (AYM), said she is in support of Proposal No. 602, 2006. She said they do a lot of programs with youth after they go through the Department of Corrections (DOC). She said it is great to hear something being done on the front-end before they go to DOC.

Reverend C.L. Day, Greater Indianapolis National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), said they are also in support of Proposal No. 602, 2006. He said mentoring programs are a great way to connect with youth.

Councillor Oliver moved, seconded by Councilor Brown, to send Proposal No. 602 and 603, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

[Clerk's note: Councillor Plowman left at 6:12 p.m.]

PROPOSAL NO. 604, 2006 - appropriates a total of \$11,250 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Planning Division (Non-Lapsing Federal Grants Fund) to fund the purchase of laptops to enhance the capabilities of state and local public safety personnel in preventing and responding to acts of terrorism

Elizabeth Allison, Grant Manager for the Indianapolis Police Department (IPD), said this appropriation is for ten laptops with the Geographical Information System (GIS) software installed on them. She said the laptops will be distributed to the Department of Public Works (DPW), Task Force One, IPD SWAT, Metropolitan Emergency Communication Agency (MECA), and Emergency Management.

Councillor McWhirter moved, seconded by Councillor Oliver, to send Proposal No. 604, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 605, 2006 - appropriates a total of \$110,337 in the 2006 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Police Division (Non-Lapsing Federal Grants Fund) to fund the Our Kids (OK) Program and to purchase bullet proof vests for police officers

Ms. Allison said there are three officers that are assigned as mentors to the middle schools that feed into Arlington High School. She said \$42,837 is the second round of funding for this program. She went on to discuss grant funds for IPD (Exhibit B, attached). Ms. Allison said the second grant of \$67,500 for bullet proof vests is a 50% match. She said previously the vests were made out of zylon, which has now been tested to be ineffective in stopping bullets. She said they need to replace all vests that have zylon in them. The total cost is \$134,000, which will purchase 300 vests.

Councillor Brown asked if the Our Kids (OK) program is funded totally by grants. Ms. Allison said the OK program is 100% grant funded, except for officers' salaries. Councillor Brown asked if additional funding will be in the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) for the OK program. Ms. Patterson said there will be no additional money in the program under IMPD; however, the program will still function.

Councillor Oliver asked if a vest has failed while in use by an officer. Ms. Allison replied in the negative. She said the vests were tested, and that is when it was found that zylon did not protect the vest.

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor Oliver, to send Proposal No. 605, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 606, 2006 - approves an increase of \$267,312 in the 2006 Budget of the Marion County Prosecutor (State and Federal Grants Fund) to pay salaries, supplies, training, and child interviewing equipment upgrades at the Child Advocacy Center and to provide for continued funding of a deputy prosecutor for the Joint Regional Gang Interdiction Program

Lisa Bentley, Chief of Operations, Prosecutor's Office, said both of these programs have renewal grants and the Child Advocacy Center is funded through the Division of Child Services in the amount of \$250,000. The \$250,000 will fund a prosecutor, paralegal, receptionist, and a child interviewer. She said they will also be upgrading equipment, and the state requires the Prosecutor's Office to provide training at the Child Advocacy Center. She said the second grant is in the amount of \$17,320 to continue funding for a deputy prosecutor. Ms. Bentley said they are currently working with Johnson County to put together an application that will continue the funding for deputy prosecutors.

Councillor Brown asked why Marion County is partnering with Johnson County on the Regional Gang Interdiction Program. Ms. Bentley said the partnership with Johnson County was prior to the current administration, and because they worked so well, the current administration has continued the partnership. Councillor Brown asked how many cases were prosecuted last year. Ms. Bentley said she would have to get back with Councillor Brown with those numbers.

Councillor McWhirter moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to send Proposal No. 606, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 607, 2006 - amends the Code for the purpose of enabling the Indianapolis Fire Department to charge fees for emergency ambulance services

James Greeson, Chief of the Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD), said due to the merger there will be a necessity for IFD to charge ambulance fees to deliver ambulance service to the current Washington Township area. He said they need to set the fees in the code in order to deliver the service. The fees set would be in the amount of the current fees charged by Washington Township.

Councillor McWhirter asked if they will be charging for non-transport services. Chief Greeson said non-transport service will be in addition to transfer fees. Steve Auch, Division Chief - EMS said insurance companies do a lot of charging of fees when transport does not occur; however, they typically do not charge if no services were performed. Councillor McWhirter asked who will be collecting the fees. Chief Greeson said they have a contract in place with a company called Ciporms. Councillor McWhirter asked what percentage the company charges for their services. Mr. Auch said he believes the charge is 5.1%.

Councillor Brown clarified that the service fees already existed in Washington Township, and due to the merger, this step (proposal) is now needed. Councillor Brown asked if there will be any decrease in service to Washington Township. Chief Greeson replied in the negative and said the services should improve.

Reverend Day asked how this will effect the indigent population. Chief Greeson said the services should be handled the same way, and in some cases, those patients will be transported to Wishard Hospital. He said the fees would be collected by Medicaid or Medicare. Suzannah Overholt, Transition Director, said there will be no negative impact on the level of care or services provided.

Councillor McWhirter moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to send Proposal No. 607, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 608, 2006 - approves a transfer of \$320,762 from the Police General Fund to the IMPD Fund for the funding of the 59 recruits of the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department starting November 13, 2006

Kim Diller, Office of Finance and Management, said this proposal is a transfer from the Police General Fund to the IMPD fund of \$320,762. She said this amount represents the salary of the 59 new recruits. She said they felt it was appropriate to make sure the funding for the new IMPD officers came out of the new IMPD fund.

Chair Moriarty Adams asked if the transfer also includes officers' benefits. Ms. Diller replied in the affirmative.

Councillor Brown said this is the most diverse recruit class in the history of IPD, and he is in support of this proposal.

Ms. Diller said this is not an additional appropriation; it is an appropriation that already exists in the Police General Fund.

Mr. Clifford said it is critical to have the new officers' salaries start in IMPD, because their future pension will not have to be paid through the old Police Special Service District.

Councillor McWhirter asked how IMPD can have a fund if the department does not exist until January 1, 2007. Ms. Overholt said IMPD does exist. The ordinance that was passed established the IMPD effective January 1, 2006 and mandated financial and purchasing operations to be coordinated between IPD and the Sheriff's Department. She said it was also authorized for coordination of personnel functions, etc. during 2006. Councillor McWhirter asked if the Social Security issue has been resolved. Ms. Overholt said) they have been notified (not in writing) through Public Employee Retirement Fund (PERF) that Social Security has made a decision that current IPD officers will remain outside Social Security and Sheriff deputies, as a group, will be permitted to choose whether or not they wish to continue to be covered by Social Security.

Reverend Day said he is in support of this proposal and is looking forward to working with IMPD. He said he is very excited about the diversity of the new recruit class.

Chair Moriarty Adams thanked and congratulated the Sheriff, Chief, Deputy Chiefs, Majors and steering committee members who have worked hard on the transition to IMPD and said the Public Safety committee will work with IMPD to make sure the new department is successful on behalf of the citizens of Marion County.

Councilor Oliver moved, seconded by Councillor McWhirter, to send Proposal No. 608, 2006 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

CONCLUSION

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chair
Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

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